

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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USDA Assists Craig With Sewer System Improvements

Lincoln, Nebraska, July 30-The Village of Craig is the recipient of \$447,000 in loan and grant funds from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development. These funds will be used to make needed improvements to the village's present sewer system, which will ensure reliable sanitary sewer services to the village's 228 residents. The \$256,000 USDA loan will be repaid over 40 years at 4.50 percent interest.

Roger Meeks, rural development specialist for USDA Rural Development stated, "This wastewater improvement project is vital to the community of Craig." Meeks added, "The village's current sewer system is reaching the end of its useful life and is no longer adequately collecting or treating the village's wastewater. The proposed improvements are necessary to keep the community's sanitary sewer system in compliance with the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality permit requirements."

Proposed sewer system improvements consist of the installation of new 3-inch PVC pipes, renovation of the current lift station into a submersible pump system, rebuilding the dikes for both lagoon cells and relining the unused lagoon cell.

USDA Rural Development is a credit arm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture whose mission is to provide financial assistance to rural communities who are unable to secure acceptable credit elsewhere for housing, community facilities, and business development. Assistance provided can be in the form of grants, direct loans, and guarantees on loans made by commercial lenders.

The USDA funds were received through the Water & Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program of USDA Rural Development. For additional information, contact Roger Meeks in the USDA Rural Development Office, 6030 S. 58th Street Suite B Lincoln, Neb. 68516 or phone (402) 423-9683. Website: www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/.

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